

Attachment H

COVER SHEET (PAGE 1 of 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Proposal Title: San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration
 Applicant Name: U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: Paula Landis
 Mailing Address: 2666 N. Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106, Fresno CA 93727
 Telephone: (209) 487-5103
 Fax: (209) 487-5397

Amount of funding requested: \$ 4,495,000 for 3 years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box). Note that this is an important decision: see page of the Proposal Solicitation Package for more information.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Passage Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Passage Improvements |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplain and Habitat Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Harvest | <input type="checkbox"/> Species Life History Studies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Planning/Implementation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Screen Evaluations - Alternatives and Biological Priorities | |

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento Tributary: <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta | <input type="checkbox"/> East Side Delta Tributary: <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suisun Marsh and Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Tributary: <u> </u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed) | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay: <u> </u> |

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check no more than two boxes):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter-run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Late-fall run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta smelt | <input type="checkbox"/> Longfin smelt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Splittail | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead trout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green sturgeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Striped bass |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migratory birds | |

COVER SHEET (PAGE 2 of 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public/Non-profit joint venture | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government/district | <input type="checkbox"/> Private party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | |

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- (1) the truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- (2) the individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if applicant is an entity or organization); and
- (3) the person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section II.K) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

Paul J. Furdie
(Signature of Applicant)

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM

Proposal

Submitted in Response to the

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Proposal Solicitation Package

May 1998

Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs

July 1998

II. Executive Summary

- a. Project Title San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration
 Applicant Name The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

b. Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives

This proposal is comprised of five distinct projects which are related by virtue of location, benefits and support. The proposal is to acquire parcels of land through fee title and permanent easements that will provide significant riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. Three parcels of land have been identified for fee title acquisition and two locations have been identified for easements. The two easements are demonstration projects that focus on the use of natural processes and restoration of the river channel. All sites are located within San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan.

The primary biological objectives are to improve riparian and riverine aquatic habitats for Swainson's Hawk, Greater Sandhill Crane, Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds and splittail. (ERPP, Vol. II, page 380) The primary ecological objectives are to expand and reconnect river channels to their floodplains (CALFED PSP, pages 73-74).

c. Approach/Tasks/Schedule

The approach, tasks and schedules for the three land acquisitions are straight forward. All of the properties have willing sellers, prices have been agreed upon and cost-share partners have been identified. Acquisitions will take place as soon as sufficient funds have been collected to complete the transactions.

The easements will be approached similarly to one another. Hydraulic analyses, which are underway for both projects, need to be completed. For the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem (Grasslands SJR Mainstem) the analysis will determine channel capacity. For the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor the analysis will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to identify willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of conservation and flood easements. This will take approximately three years.

d. Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED

These project sites are all located within the San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP, Vol. II, page 371). The acquisition of these lands and easements are consistent with the CALFED vision for this ecological zone (ERPP, Vol. II, page 375) including restoring important wildlife and plant communities and ecological processes to healthy conditions (ERPP, Vol. II, page 378) and reducing stressors (ERPP, Vol. II, page 379). In addition, integration between CALFED and the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program is specifically identified on page 382, Volume II of the ERPP.

e. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

The total cost for these acquisitions, studies and easements is \$22,495,000. The total request from CALFED is for \$4,495,000. The breakdown by site for total costs is: \$15,000,000 for the Spano Property, \$4,500,000 for the Spencer Property, \$1,800,000 for the Whitehurst Property, \$95,000 for planning, plus \$550,000 for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem easements, and \$50,000 for planning plus \$500,000 for Firebaugh to Mendota easements. The breakdown by site for the CALFED portion is: \$1,500,000 for the Spano Property, \$1,000,000 for the Spencer Property, \$800,000 for the Whitehurst Property, \$645,000 for the Grasslands SJR Mainstem easements, and \$550,000 for Firebaugh to Mendota easements.

No third party impacts are anticipated as the result of implementing this program. Only property offered by willing sellers is considered in this proposal. Potential impacts from land use changes or changes in flooding conditions are addressed through the broader, ongoing planning efforts of the project participants.

f. Applicant Qualifications

The Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have a long standing interest in this reach of the River. This group is qualified to carry out the proposed project based on the level of interest, participation and support from diverse groups as well as access to technical expertise. The participants are dedicated to bringing this project to fruition and engineering, planning, biological, and legal expertise are available from within the participating agencies, groups and contract consultants.

g. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

Monitoring and data evaluation will be unique to each project site. Funding for monitoring and data evaluation exists for each site. Monitoring for the fee title acquisitions will fall under existing monitoring and data evaluation plans for the San Joaquin River Parkway. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Grasslands SJR Mainstem will fall under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor will fall under the existing San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program, which is included in the CVPLA.

h. Local Support/Coordination with other Program/Compatibility with CALFED Objectives

This project has significant support from diverse interest groups and is being carried out in close coordination with other programs including, but not limited to the CVPLA and the San Joaquin River Management Program. Letters of support are included as an attachment to this document. This project is compatible with CALFED objectives related to the loss of riparian habitat for migratory birds species, water quality and temperature problems that negatively impact the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

III. Title Page

a. Title of Project

San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration

b. Name of applicant/principle investigators

Paula J. Landis, P.E.
 Program Manager
 US Bureau of Reclamation
 2666 N. Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106
 Fresno, CA 93727-1551
 Phone (209) 487-5103
 FAX (209) 487-5397
 E-mail plandis@mp.usbr.gov

c. Type of Organization

Agency

d. Tax Identification Number and/or Contractor license

Not applicable

e. Participants

Friant Water Users Authority
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
 San Joaquin River Conservancy
 San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust
 Riparian Landowners
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

IV. Project Description

a. Project Description and Approach

This proposal is to acquire parcels of land through fee title and permanent easements that will provide significant riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. Three parcels of land have been identified for fee title acquisition: the Spano River Ranch, the Spencer Property and the Whitehurst Property. Two locations have been identified for easements: the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem Property and the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor. The two easements are demonstration projects that focus on the use of natural processes and restoration of the river channel. All sites are located within San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (Figure 1). The fee title acquisitions are within the Gravelly Ford to Friant Dam Ecological Unit defined on page 387, of the ERPP, Vol. II. The easements are within the Merced River to Mendota Pool Ecological Unit defined on page 377, of the ERPP, Vol. II.

Spano River Ranch (520 acres): The San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust (River Parkway Trust) will acquire the Spano River Ranch, which was flooded in January 1997. The property has been offered for sale by the owner at a significant discount from fair market value. It has well over one mile of river frontage, comprises critical stream side forest and wetland habitat, agriculture and recreation lands. The property experienced extensive flooding in January 1997 (Figure 2). The Trust for Public Land and the River Parkway Trust are working with a willing seller to acquire the property in fee title in its entirety. Once acquired, the property will become part of the planned 22-mile San Joaquin River Parkway, a greenbelt of natural reserves, parks and open space between Fresno and Madera Counties. Title will ultimately be conveyed to the Conservancy.

Spencer Property (127 acres): The San Joaquin River Conservancy will acquire the Spencer property subject to available funding. The property is considered "at risk" because an approved tentative tract map for its development currently exists. The property provides wetlands, habitat, some dense and relatively natural plant communities and areas for riparian restoration (Figures 3-5). The Parkway Master Plan and the associated Environmental Impact Report identify the property as a valuable riparian habitat. All of the wetlands, many of which are surrounded by dense vegetation, provide good habitat for water-oriented birds such as herons, egrets, grebes and coots, as well as ducks. Approval of this grant request would ensure that a minimum of approximately 30 acres of critical wetlands would be added to the Parkway. The upland area of the project is potential habitat for kit foxes and the riparian area is potential habitat for several species such as white-tailed kites and the yellow warbler.

The property provides a unique opportunity to protect a remnant of the river bottom riparian-associated grassland. This grassland is critical to sustaining foraging grounds for the numerous species of raptors that live along the river. The raptors that use the site as part of the long river corridor include bald eagles, golden eagles, northern harriers, red-tailed hawks, ospreys, short-eared and barn owls, and turkey vultures.

Whitehurst Property (60-acres): The Whitehurst property is included in the San Joaquin River Parkway Master plan and has been recommended by the San Joaquin River Conservancy for inclusion in the Parkway. The landowners have agreed to enter into a short-term willing seller option agreement - the opportunity to acquire and protect this key addition to the Parkway will disappear in the near term if sufficient funding is not obtained.

The parcel consists of significant stream-side forest with large stands of elderberry shrubs and many other riparian plants, including California wild rose. Public acquisition will protect the important wildlife resources that rely on the property for habitat including numerous raptors, great blue herons, egrets, ducks, deer, bobcats, coyotes, grey foxes, and others. Due to the numerous elderberry plants, the property is potential habitat for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle.

The addition to the expected conservation benefits, acquisition of the Whitehurst property will afford both Fresno and Madera Counties with natural, cost-effective flood protection benefits. Portions of the property lie within the river's 100-year floodplain. This property was completely underwater during the floods of January 1997 (Figure 6). Acquisition and management as open space will preclude development and the threat of flood-related damage or injury.

Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem (8 miles): This project involves conducting analyses of flood water routing and riparian restoration potential associated with the San Luis NWR. This project will complement similar efforts (previously funded by CALFED) to evaluate the West Bear Creek Unit of San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. This proposal will allow water, which is currently routed into a bypass channel, to be routed back into the historic San Joaquin River channel to provide both flood protection and riparian habitat benefits.

Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor (12 miles): This project is located along the east side of the San Joaquin River between the City of Firebaugh and Mendota Dam. This land is all in private ownership and is currently being farmed. There is a very narrow strip of cottonwood forest at the water's edge. This area experienced extensive flooding during January 1997. The land is underwater, due to seepage, three out five years and cannot be farmed. Several landowners have indicated a willingness to sell flood and/or conservation easements. The features of this project include restoration of shaded riverine aquatic and terrestrial riparian habitat and reconnect the historic floodplain to the river channel.

The approach will be to determine exactly which lands would provide the greatest benefits in terms of both flood protection and riparian habitat restoration. This work has been funded. Potentially, several thousand acres of easements could be acquired. CALFED funding would be used to acquire land that will provide the greatest benefits and has a willing seller.

b. Proposed Scope of Work

The approach for the three fee title acquisitions will be similar and the two demonstration projects will be similar. For the three land acquisitions, the approach, tasks and schedules are straight forward. All of the properties have willing sellers, prices have been agreed upon and

cost-share partners have been identified. Acquisitions will take place as soon as sufficient funds have been collected to complete the transactions.

For both of the proposed demonstration projects, hydraulic analyses need to be completed. For the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem, the analyses will determine channel capacity. For the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor, the analyses will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to enter into agreements with willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of conservation and flood easements.

The scope of work, for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem, includes: preparing engineering surveys of the existing river profile and cross sections; including locations of structures and obstructions to flood waters flows, preparing a proposal to modify the channel and structures to accommodate flood flows up to 1,500 cfs, the design flows shown on San Joaquin Valley Flood Control System maps.

c. Location and Geographic Boundaries

The project is located in Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties and encompasses portions of the San Joaquin River watershed. It is on the floor of the San Joaquin Valley. The San Joaquin River is the second largest contributor of flow to the Delta after the Sacramento River.

The geographic boundaries of the project are the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam, near Fresno, and the confluence of the San Joaquin and Merced Rivers.

Spano River Ranch: The 520-acre Spano River Ranch is located in the San Joaquin floodplain, just west of State Highway 41, in one of the fastest growing urban areas of the Fresno-Madera region. The majority of the property is located in the City of Fresno (Fresno County) with 50 acres located in Madera County. It is just downstream of two other protected properties: 167-acre Jensen River Ranch and 22-acre Wildwood Native Park, both managed by the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Figure 7).

Spencer: The 127-acre Spencer property is located between Fresno and Madera counties. It lies one-and-a-half miles east of Highway 99, and is easily accessed using the Avenue 7 exit. It is bordered on the north, east and west by agricultural property. Immediately south and across the San Joaquin River from the property is the Fresno Riverside municipal golf course, east of which are residential developments that are being developed at an ever-increasing pace (Figure 7).

Whitehurst: The 60-acre Whitehurst property is located midway between Highway 41 and Highway 99 along the San Joaquin River in the Fresno County (Figure 7).

Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem - from the Southeast corner of San Luis NWR (River Mile 151) to the Pick Anderson Bypass diversion (approximately River Mile 159). (Figure 8)

Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor - from the City of Firebaugh (River Mile 193) to Mendota Pool (River Mile 205). (Figure 1)

d. Expected Benefits

The quantity and quality of riparian habitat along the San Joaquin River is inadequate to support production and survival of desirable plant and animal species. In many locations, riparian habitat is fragmented, degraded or nonexistent.

The focus of this proposal is on reconnecting historic floodplain with the river channel, restoration of shaded riverine aquatic habitat and riparian habitat for terrestrial species. The restoration of these habitats will contribute significantly to ecological health of the Bay-Delta system and the ability of that system to sustain healthy populations of numerous priority species.

The primary stressors identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal are: floodplain changes, channel form changes, and land use changes including gravel mining, grazing, urbanization and shaded riverine aquatic habitat that is fragmented or nonexistent resulting in a loss of food supply and channel complexity (CALFED PSP, page 73-74).

Stressor subcategories identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal include: hydrological or physical isolation of floodplains, channel aggradations due to fine sediment, loss of existing riparian zone and lack of regeneration potential (CALFED PSP, page 75).

Priority species identified by CALFED that will benefit from the implementation of this proposal include splittail, striped bass and migratory birds and could ultimately include San Joaquin fall-run chinook salmon, and steelhead trout (CALFED PSP, page 70). Many resident fish would also benefit such as hitch and catfish.

The priority habitats identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal include shaded riverine aquatic habitat, instream aquatic habitat, and wetland habitat (CALFED PSP, pg. 67-68).

The many benefits of developing and implementing a riparian restoration plan include improved sediment reduction, water quality and water temperatures (CALFED PSP, page 76-77). In addition, riparian vegetation stabilizes river banks, helps control erosion and reduces sediment.

e. Background and Biological/Technical Justification

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) (ERPP, Vol. II, page 382) was conceived in 1996 and has been moving steadily forward ever since. This program offers a unique opportunity for normally adversarial groups to come together and be productive. The Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations have agreed to work on riparian habitat restoration along the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River.

The SJRRHRP is funded by the CVPIA under Section B(1) Other. This section of the CVPIA provides funding for the protection and restoration of riparian habitat values through habitat restoration actions. The goal of the SJRRHRP is to improve habitat diversity, spacial distribution, and age class of riparian vegetation, and improving the dynamic hydrologic and

geomorphic processes to help sustain, and enhance naturally regenerating riparian and floodplain habitats.

Riparian habitat along the San Joaquin River is inadequate to support production and survival of desirable plant and animal species. The riparian habitat losses in the San Joaquin River system have resulted from dam construction, water diversion, gravel mining and urban encroachment. The need for riparian habitat restoration in this reach of the San Joaquin River is extreme for two reasons; (1) this reach of river has experienced greater environmental damage than other reaches and (2) no other program or forum is focused on this reach of the river. In addition, the floods of January 1997 clearly indicate an urgent need to provide more channel capacity and floodplain terraces to accommodate extremely high flows (60,000 cfs).

The primary biological objectives are to improve riparian and riverine aquatic habitats for Swainson's Hawk, Greater Sandhill Crane, Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds and splittail (ERPP, Vol. II, page 379-380). The primary ecological objectives are to expand and reconnect river channels to their floodplains (ERPP, Vol. II, page 378).

The Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem and the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor projects specifically address the CALFED vision for the Merced to Mendota Pool Ecological Unit as described on page 377, Vol. II, of the ERPP. "Floodway capacity should be expanded by a combination of: levee setbacks, levee abandonment where new land use and public ownership justify restoring the floodplain, and establishment of new design flood flow capacity that includes a firm commitment to natural vegetation not subject to maintenance or removal."

Historic and existing physical and biological conditions analyses have been completed. The *Historical Riparian Habitat Conditions of the San Joaquin River - Friant Dam to the Merced River* (April 1998) includes descriptions, maps, photos, and other data needed to understand the extent, density, species composition and condition of historical and existing riparian vegetation along the San Joaquin River. In the *Analysis of Physical Processes and Riparian Habitat Potential of the San Joaquin River - Friant Dam to the Merced River* (April 1998, Draft), historic cross sections were analyzed and new cross-sections were surveyed to determine how the riverbed has changed over time.

For the existing conditions analysis, 1993 aerial photos were examined to determine where variable communities of riparian vegetation exist and where they can be established. This information was confirmed by ground truthing and comparison with other Geographic Information System (GIS) data bases. Soil types were also mapped to show where there is a likelihood of successfully establishing riparian vegetation.

A GIS has been developed to organize and analyze spatial data on historical and existing conditions. The GIS is being used to analyze the relationship between vegetation and other processes such as hydrology, soils, land use, changes in extent and composition of riparian vegetation, etc.

The information generated in these two reports suggests that restoration of these five sites will likely contribute to improving flooding conditions on surrounding land and to increasing the amount of useable habitat in this reach of river. These analyses suggest that the vegetation, soils, wildlife, adjacent land uses, aquatic conditions, geomorphology, and flood flows make these parcels good candidates for restoration of both habitat and flood plain terraces.

The expected benefits from implementing this project are great due to the magnitude of riparian habitat losses that this reach of river has endured. The planning process will assure that the benefits of implementing this project will be long-term and sustainable. This will be accomplished by planting native species where environmental conditions promise success and where landowners' are willing participants.

Approach to documenting the existing conditions for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem project will involve contacting agencies that are in the midst of gathering information for use in the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) comprehensive study. Additional detail will be gathered in the most cost effective method possible by dovetailing this more site specific work with ongoing efforts that have been funded previously. Physical and ecological modeling will not be funded by this project as it is being prepared COE contractors. Results of modeling will be applied to locate suitable sites for increased transient flood water storage and improved flood water routing.

f. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

Monitoring and data evaluation will be unique to each project site. Funding for monitoring and data evaluation exists for each site. Monitoring for the fee title acquisitions will fall under existing monitoring and data evaluation plans for the San Joaquin River Parkway. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem will fall under the jurisdiction of the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. USFWS staff and technical/engineering consultants will establish baseline pre-project conditions and monitor and compare annually the results of floodplain restoration for biological resources, ecosystem functions, and downstream floodway management. Results will be published annually. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor will fall under the existing SJRRHRP.

g. Implementability

These projects are simple acquisitions and are not subject to CEQA and NEPA requirements. However, CEQA and NEPA requirements will be met for any restoration work that is undertaken once the properties or easements have been acquired and all necessary permits will be obtained.

Significant collaboration is taking place between the SJRRHRP and other groups actively pursuing the restoration of the San Joaquin River. These groups include the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, the San Joaquin River Management Program, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, the San Joaquin River Parkway Land Acquisition Program, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Department of Fish and Game, the Trust for Public Land, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



Jacqueline Ball
District Superintendent
San Joaquin District
P. O. Box 205
Friant, CA. 93626

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

June 30, 1998

Dear Mr. Snow,

RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain Lands
along the San Joaquin River.

In my capacity as District Superintendent of the San Joaquin District of California State Parks I have the pleasure of sitting on the San Joaquin River Conservancy Board. I am pleased to write this letter of support for the San Joaquin River Conservancy's application for CALFED funds towards the acquisition and restoration of riparian habitat and floodplain lands along the San Joaquin River.

The Conservancy has joined with a coalition of applicants to submit this application. The properties that are identified for acquisition with these funds will serve as critical additions to the San Joaquin River Parkway. This parkway will provide irreplaceable protection of riparian habitat and flood protection benefits for generations to come in one of the fastest growing urban areas of California.

CALFED support for this application will serve as an important step forward in the completion of the Parkway. I appreciate your consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jacqueline Ball'.
Jacqueline Ball
District Superintendent



Juan Arambula, Chairman
Supervisor, District 3
Board of Supervisors

June 23, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River

Dear Mr. Snow:

A coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups share a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the main stem of the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The proposed acquisition are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported by Improvement Act (CVPIA).

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Association is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

Sincerely,

Juan Arambula
Chairman, District 3

JA/mb
Enclosure

cc: Dr. Robert H. Kelly, Executive Director
San Joaquin River Conservancy



MAYOR JIM PATTERSON

June 30, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and
Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing this letter to support the efforts of a coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups which share a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the main stem of the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River.

These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The San Joaquin River is one of California's finest natural resources and holds the key to much of the Central Valley's rich natural and cultural history. The funding would provide for acquisition of critical habitat for conservation purposes, including the protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and associated habitat along one of the state's fastest growing urban areas on California's second largest river.

We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request. Thank you for your consideration.

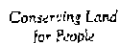
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patterson".

Jim Patterson
Mayor

CITY OF FRESNO

CITY HALL • 2600 FRESNO STREET • FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93721-3600 • (209) 498-1560 • FAX (209) 237-4010



July 23 1 17 PM '58

June 25, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) supports an allocation of funds from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for the acquisition and restoration of critical floodplain habitat lands on the San Joaquin River.

TPL, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the Bureau of Reclamation have worked together to acquire key properties for inclusion in the San Joaquin River Parkway. We are committed to continuing this successful partnership through the leveraging of public and private funding sources for the acquisition of future properties as they become available. Currently, TPL and the Parkway Trust hold an option to acquire the Whitehurst Property and are in the final stages of an agreement to purchase Spano River Ranch. Both properties contain riparian habitat lands that were flooded during the January 1997 storms. Together with significant matching funds, a grant from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program will ensure the restoration and permanent protection of the river's historic habitat resources.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Reed Hildorn

Reed Holderman
Director, Western Region

The Trust for Public Land
Western Region
116 New Montgomery
and Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 495-5660
Fax (415) 495-0541

KEYWORD called
FILE CODE ENW-11-M

[illegible]

SAN JOAQUIN



RIVER CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 205, 5290 Millerton Rd.
 Friant, California 93626
 Telephone (209) 822-2877
 Fax (209) 822-2710
 Pages (209) 979-3118
 E-mail: sjriverconserv@panw.com
 Website: www.sjriverconservancy.com

CONSERVANCY BOARD

The Honorable
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 Fresno County Board of Supervisors

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 Madera County Board of Supervisors

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Dr. Robert H. Kelley
 Executive Officer

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 Pete Wilson, Governor

29 June 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
 CALFED Bay Delta Program
 1416 Ninth Street, -Suite #1155
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Acquisition & Restoration of Riparian Habitat
 and Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River

Dear Mr. Snow:

It is the mission of the San Joaquin River Conservancy, a public agency, to preserve and enhance the San Joaquin River's extraordinary biological diversity and to protect its valued natural resources.

We join a coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups sharing a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the mainstem of the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to its confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The proposed acquisitions are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management and habitat restoration objectives and CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported by, and consistent with implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA).

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

At a recent Board of Directors meeting, staff was directed to seek and secure funds to acquire riparian corridor properties before development can take place, -thus the reason for our writing you at this time.

Yours very truly,

Robert H. Kelley
 Dr. Robert H. Kelley,
 Executive Officer

June 26, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

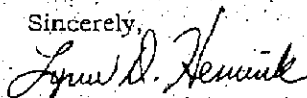
RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain
Lands along the San Joaquin River

Dear Mr. Snow:

As a Director of the San Joaquin River Conservancy, I believe in the coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups that share a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the main stem of the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The proposed acquisitions are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management and habitat restoration objectives and CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported by and consistent with implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA).

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Association is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

Sincerely,



Lynn D. Hemink
San Joaquin River Conservancy
Board of Directors
747 East Cole
Fresno, California 93720

Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director CALFED
Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite#1155
Sacramento, Calif. 95814

6/30/98

Dear Mr. Snow:

We, as members of the San Joaquin Riverbluff Neighborhood Association, are writing this letter to declare our support for the application "San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Acquisitions". Most of us were witness to the January 1997 flood which occurred below us on valuable habitat that meets the criteria for CALFED. Our organization, among a coalition of environmental, agricultural and flood protection groups, support riparian habitat restoration along the San Joaquin River mainstream corridor from Friant Dam to its confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management, habitat restoration, and CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported by and remain consistent with implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

The San Joaquin Riverbluff Neighborhood Association (SJRNA) is requesting this consideration on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. Our organization is hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

The San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy needs everyone's support. SJRNA is totally committed to supporting the protection of river bottom properties and preserving its critical wildlife habitat from future development of any kind. We support the acquisition of target properties which includes the 520-acre Spano River Ranch which sits just below our membership.

Sincerely,

Lynn Fagundes
President-S.J.R.N.A.
304 West Bluff
Fresno, Calif. 93711
435-8292

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT

Letters of Support and Collaboration

Included are copies of letters from:

State Senator Jim Costa
State Senator Dick Monteith
Assemblyman Cruz Bustamante
Assemblyman George House
California Department of Parks and Recreation, Jacqueline Ball, District Supervisor
Chairman of the Fresno County Supervisors, Juan Arambula
Fresno Mayor, Jim Patterson
The Trust for Public Land, Reed Holderman
The San Joaquin River Conservancy, Dr. Robert Kelley, Executive Officer
The San Joaquin River Conservancy, Dr. Lynn Hemink, CSU Fresno
San Joaquin Riverbluff Neighborhood Association, Lynn Fagundes, President

Additional letters of support are forthcoming from:

United States Senator Barbara Boxer
United States Representative Calvin Dooley
United States Representative George Radanovich
State Sentaor Kenneth Maddy
Assemblyman Charles Poochigian
Assemblyman Robert Prenter
Madera Irrigation District, Bob Stanfield, General Manager
Wildlife Conservation Board, John Schmidt
Department of Fish and Game, Region 4, George Nokes, Regional Manager
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, Doug Harrison, Manager
Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, Dave Pollin
The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program:
 The Friant Water Users Authority
 The Natural Resources Defense Council
 The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
California Save Our Streams Council, Lloyd Carter, President

MEMBERS

RUBEN S AYALA
VICE CHAIRMANLIAM A CRAVEN
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PATRICK JOHNSTON
DAVID G KELLEY
QUENTIN L KOPP
DICK MONTEITH
STEVE PEACE
MIKE THOMPSON
CATHIE WRIGHT

California Legislature

Senate Committee

on

Agriculture and Water Resources

JIM COSTA
CHAIRMANCONSULTANTS
LINDA ADAMS
DANIEL WEBBCOMMITTEE
ASSISTANT
PAMELA OTCSTATE CAPITOL
ROOM 2031
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 445-2206
FAX: (916) 327-8260

June 25, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814Re: Support for Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain Lands
Along the San Joaquin River

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing to express my strong support for the application "San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Acquisition" submitted by the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and other groups. This application requests approximately \$5 million from Proposition 204 funds and other funding sources to acquire and restore significant riparian habitat and floodplain lands along the San Joaquin River. These properties, which flooded in 1997, will provide valuable habitat potential that meets the criteria of CALFED.

A coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups share a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the mainstem of the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The proposed acquisitions are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management and habitat restoration objectives and CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported by and consistent with implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

Mr. Lester Snow
June 25, 1998
Page 2

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP), sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association, is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

Some of the properties being acquired as part of this application are located within the San Joaquin River Parkway. These habitat lands are critical to the continued progress of the Parkway and for health of Central Valley of California. I urge your support and approval of this worthy proposal.

Sincerely,



JIM COSTA
Chairman

JC/LA/pko

sjrparkway/snow 11

COMMITTEES
HOUSING & LAND USE
HOUSE CHAIRMAN
AGRICULTURE & WATER RESOURCES
EDUCATION
NATURAL RESOURCES & WILDLIFE
TRANSPORTATION
SPECIAL COMMITTEES
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY

California State Senate

SENATOR
DICK MONTEITH
TWELFTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



SACRAMENTO OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 3048
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 445-1392

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1625 N. CARPENTER ROAD
SUITE 114
MOORESTOWN, CA 95351
(209) 577-8502

MERCED OFFICE
777 WEST 22ND STREET
SUITE 8
MERCED, CA 95340
(209) 722-4968

MADERA OFFICE
1901 HOWARD ROAD
SUITE 8
MADERA, CA 93637
(209) 674-2898

June 23, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River.

Dear Mr. Snow:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of my support of the San Joaquin Conservancy's application for CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits.

A coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups has been formed to pursue this worthy project. The proposed acquisitions are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management and habitat restoration objectives.

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program, sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Association is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy.

I hope that the Conservancy will be successful in proceeding with this important funding request, the results of which will be of great benefit to the local communities and future generations.

Sincerely,

DICK MONTEITH
Senator, 12th District

DM:pb

cc: Dr. Robert H. Kelley, Executive Officer, San Joaquin River Conservancy

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001
PHONE: (916) 319-2031
FAX: (916) 319-2131

DISTRICT OFFICE
STATE BUILDING
2550 MARIPOSA, ROOM 5006
FRESNO, CA 93721
PHONE: (209) 445-5532
FAX: (209) 445-8006

Assembly
California Legislature
CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE

MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY
THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT



June 24, 1998

Mr. Lester Now, Executive Director
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and
Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River.**

Dear Mr. Snow:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter on behalf of the San Joaquin River Conservancy in support of their grant proposal to CALFED for funds to be contributed towards the acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain Lands along the San Joaquin River.

Acquisition of this Property is considered critical to Madera and Fresno County's 22 mile, multi-use Parkway Plan and to the San Joaquin River Conservancy. Additionally, the Property is "at risk" because there now exists an approved Tentative Subdivision Map for its development.

The natural scenery afforded the Property consists of highly important San Joaquin River bottomland, including riparian forest area, riparian associated grasslands and wetlands, as well as valuable fish and wildlife habitats.

The expected population increases of Fresno and Madera counties in the Parkway and will further our progress in the ongoing, multi-agency effort to protect and restore the San Joaquin River, clearly points out the importance of preserving this unique and highly desirable component of our State's natural heritage.

The San Joaquin River Conservancy has done an outstanding job in preserving land along the river, and the grant proposal to CALFED represents a tremendous opportunity to expand their efforts. Your thoughtful consideration of this proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cruz M. Bustamante".

CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE
Member of the Assembly
Thirty-First District

CMB:db

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 941849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95849-0001
(916) 445-7800
FAX (916) 445-7344

DISTRICT OFFICES
3600 BISKAMP ROAD, SUITE 6-03
MODESTO, CA 95356
(208) 545-0341
FAX (208) 545-0346

YOSEMITE STREET
MADERA, CA 95337
(209) 661-0748
FAX (209) 661-0325

Internet: George A House@assembly.ca.gov

Assembly California Legislature



GEORGE HOUSE
ASSEMBLYMAN, TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

June 29, 1998

COMMITTEES
VICE-CHIEF
AGRICULTURE
Member
BUDGET
EDUCATION
PUBLIC SAFETY
Subcommittee
BUDGET NO. 3 RESOURCES
Select Committee
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 10TH
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA CAMPUS
Joint Committee
ON FAIR ALLOCATION
AND CLASSIFICATION
ON SCHOOL FACILITIES

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

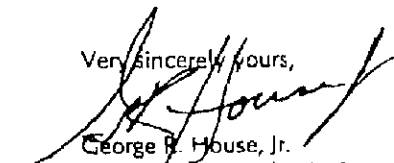
RE: Acquisition and Restoration of Riparian Habitat and Floodplain
Lands along the San Joaquin River.

Dear Mr. Snow:

A coalition of agricultural, environmental and flood protection groups share a strong interest in riparian habitat restoration along the main stem of the San Joaquin River corridor from the Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River. These groups have joined together to solicit CALFED funding for acquisition of land that will provide riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The proposed acquisitions are within the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan study area and are consistent with CALFED floodplain management and habitat restoration objectives and CALFED species goals for migratory birds. These acquisitions are also supported and consistent with implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA).

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP), sponsored by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Association, is submitting this request on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust and the San Joaquin River Conservancy. We are hopeful that CALFED will support this collaborative effort by approving this funding request.

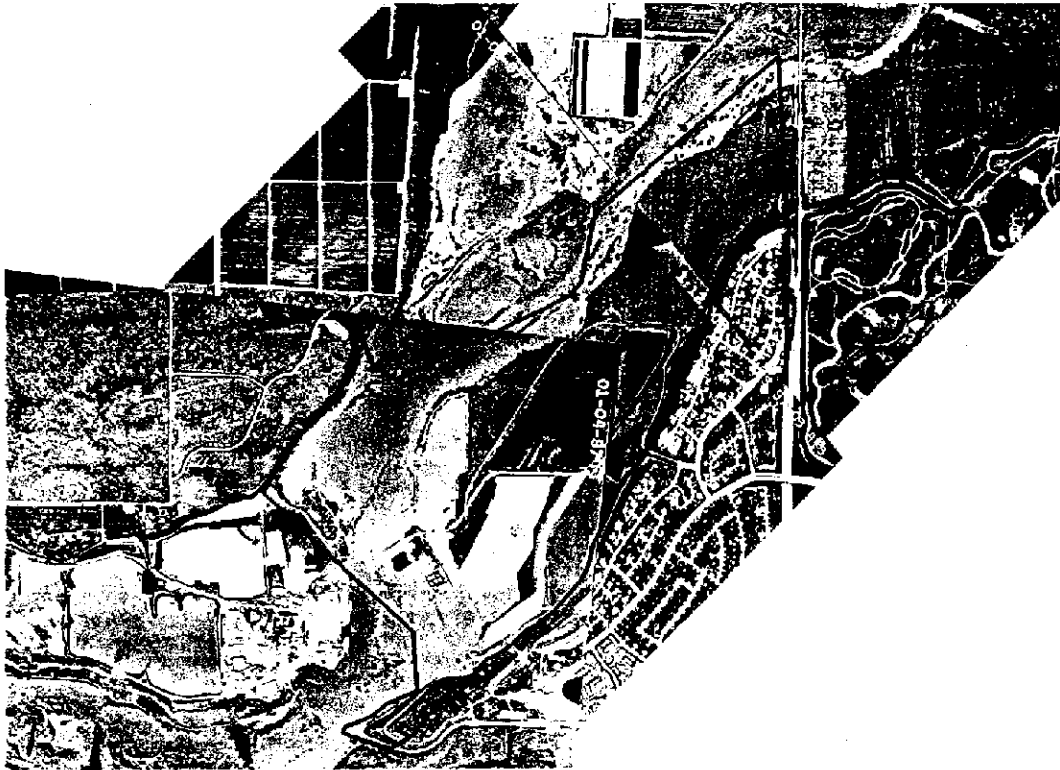
Very sincerely yours,


George B. House, Jr.
Assemblyman, 25th District

GRH:csb

cc: Dr. Robert H. Kelley, Executive Officer, San Joaquin River Conservancy

Spano Property




 Property Boundary

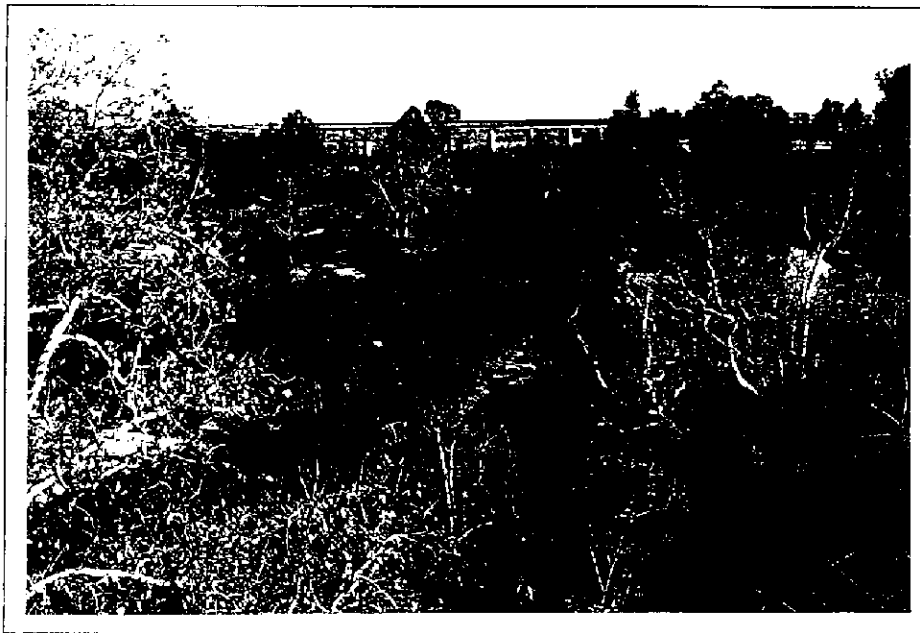


Figure 2

The Spencer Property



127 acres San Joaquin River Property.










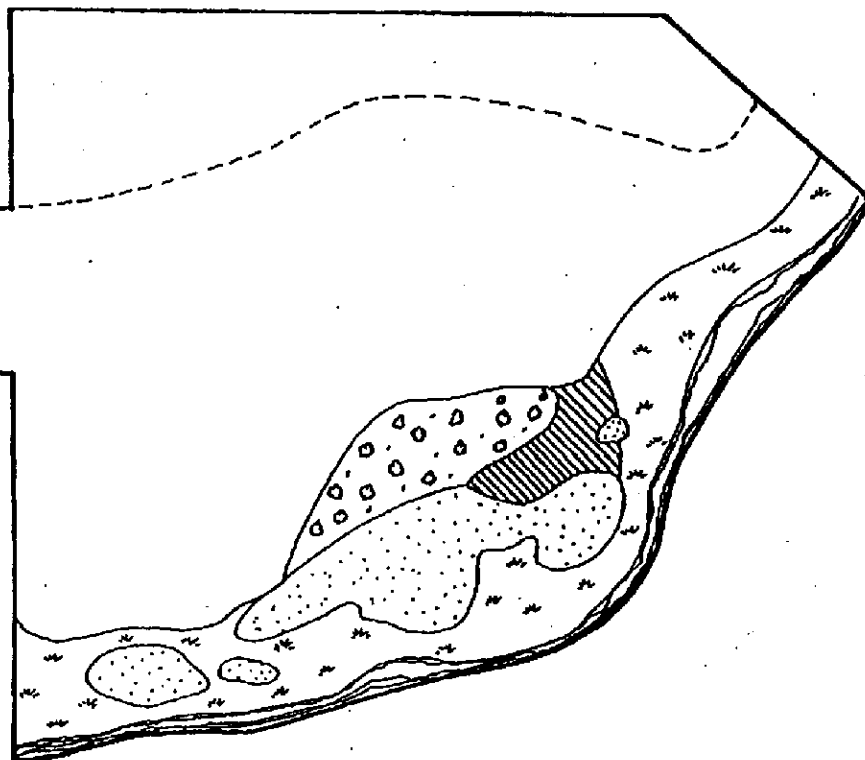
Southern river bank of the property viewed to the Northeast showing a representative portion of almost seven tenths of a mile of river frontage.

Figure 3

SPENCER PROPERTY

KEY

-  Pastureland or Valley Grassland
-  Riparian Woodland
-  Riparian Wetlands
-  Woodland/Grassland Ecotone
-  Disturbed Sandy Area
-  San Joaquin River
-  Approximate Delineation of River Bluff



VEGETATION OF THE PROJECT SITE

Whitehurst Property




 Property Boundary



Figure 6

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I-009698

River parkway trail and recreation areas

Parkway plan highlights

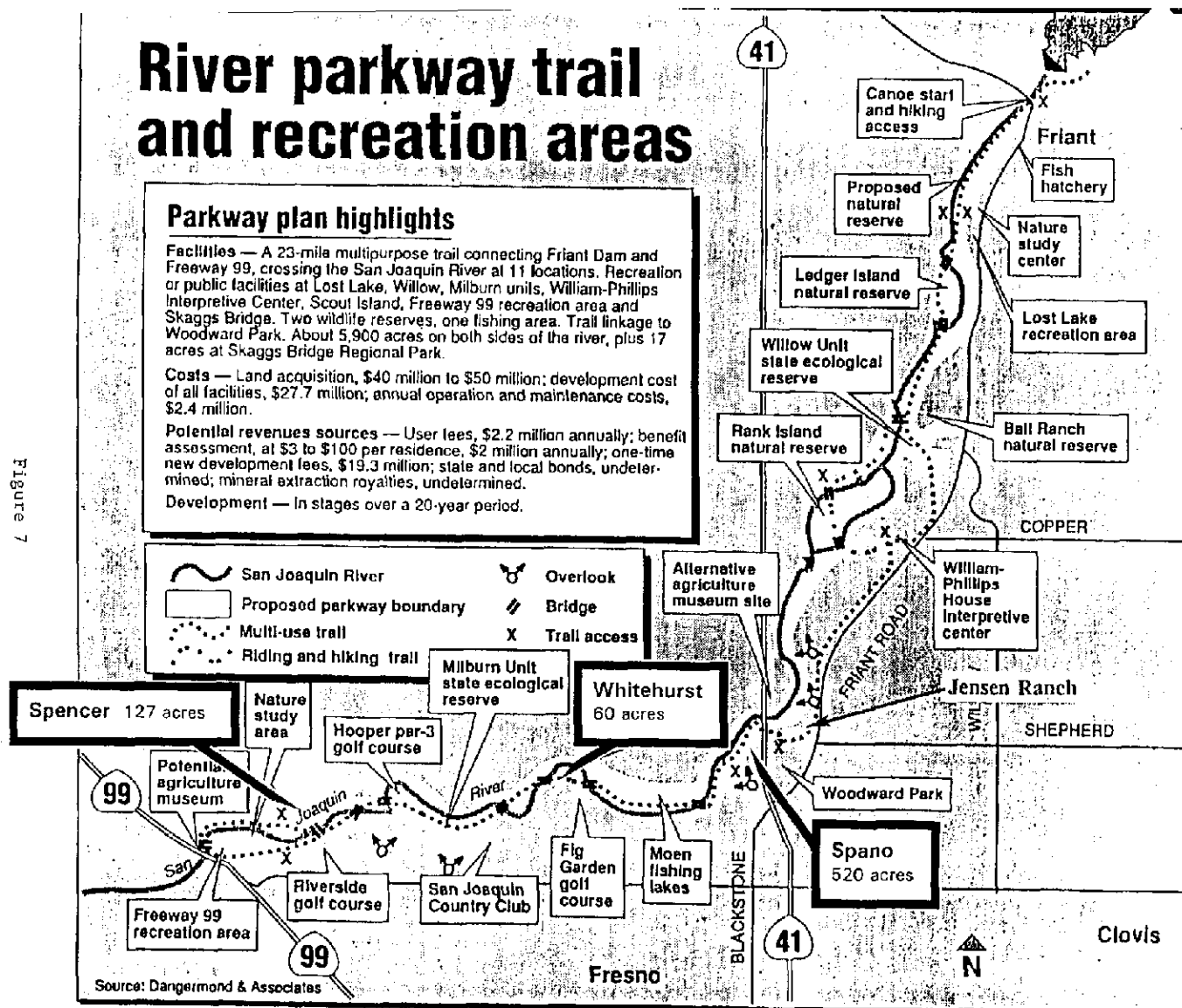
Facilities — A 23-mile multipurpose trail connecting Friant Dam and Freeway 99, crossing the San Joaquin River at 11 locations. Recreation or public facilities at Lost Lake, Willow, Milburn units, William-Phillips Interpretive Center, Scout Island, Freeway 99 recreation area and Skaggs Bridge. Two wildlife reserves, one fishing area. Trail linkage to Woodward Park. About 5,900 acres on both sides of the river, plus 17 acres at Skaggs Bridge Regional Park.

Costs — Land acquisition, \$40 million to \$50 million; development cost of all facilities, \$27.7 million; annual operation and maintenance costs, \$2.4 million.

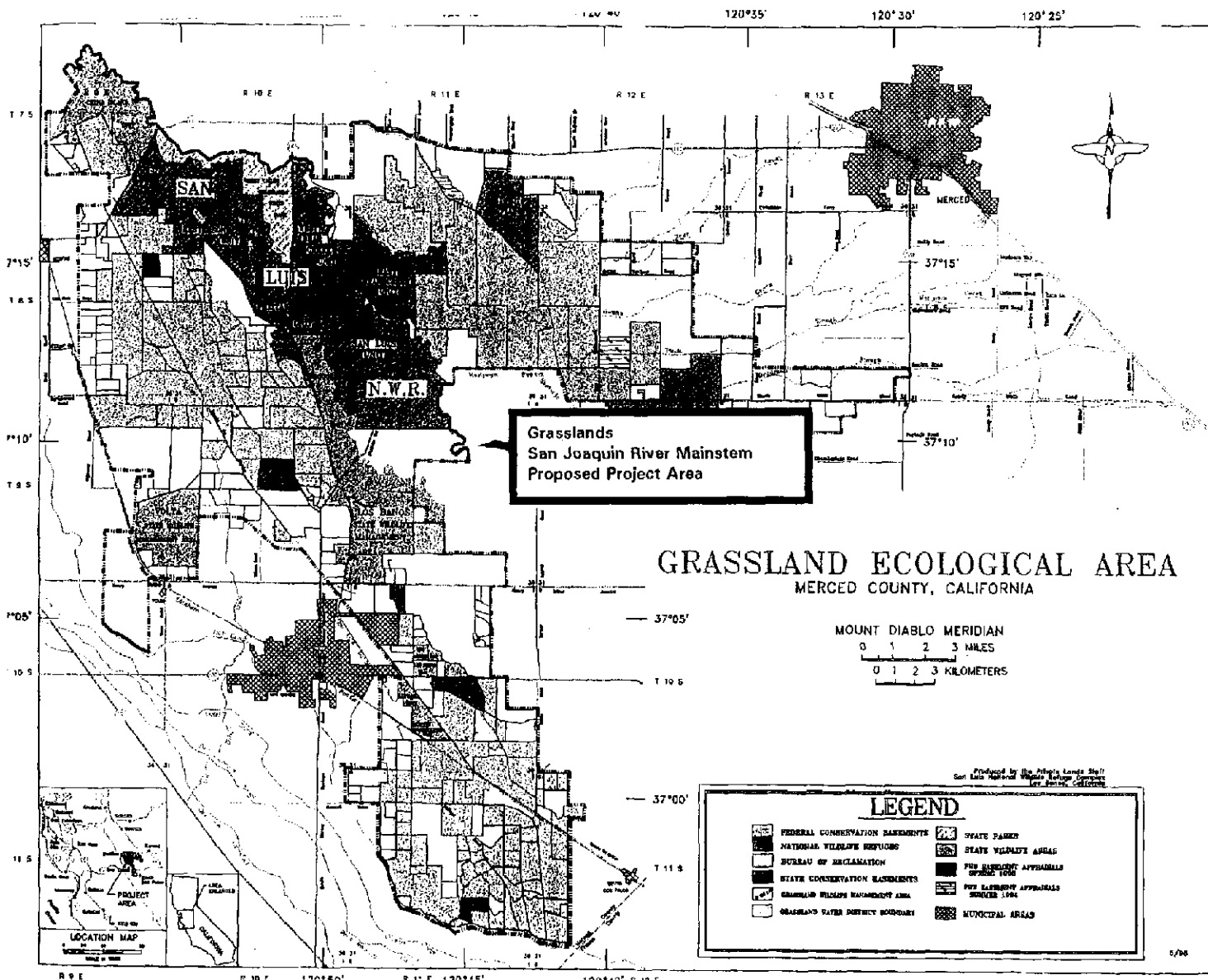
Potential revenues sources — User fees, \$2.2 million annually; benefit assessment, at \$3 to \$100 per residence, \$2 million annually; one-time new development fees, \$19.3 million; state and local bonds, undetermined; mineral extraction royalties, undetermined.

Development — In stages over a 20-year period.

Figure 7



1-009700
Figure 8



V. Costs and Schedule to Implement Proposed Project

a. Budget Costs

Costs are for investigations, acquisition of land and acquisition of conservation or flood easements. Significant cost share partners exist for the three fee title acquisitions including the CVPIA, the Packard Foundation, the EEMP, and the Wildlife Conservation Board (Table 1). However, CALFED funding is needed to guarantee that the acquisitions can be completed and that these significant opportunities for restoration are not lost.

Funds awarded from CALFED will be granted to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation which will act as fiscal agent in the distribution of funds. Prior to distribution for each acquisition, matching funds will be secured, and agency-approved appraisals will be completed.

b. Schedule Milestones

The approach, tasks and schedules for the three land acquisitions are straight forward. All of the properties have willing sellers, prices have been agreed upon and cost-share partners have been identified. Acquisitions will take place as soon as sufficient funds have been collected to complete the transactions.

The easements will be approached similarly. Hydraulic analyses, which are underway for both projects, need to be completed. For Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem the analyses will determine channel capacity. For the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor the analyses will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to identify willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of conservation and flood easements.

The Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem project is anticipated to have engineering survey and design work completed within 12 to 18 months of approval. The land right acquisition (easement, fee or other method) would require willing sellers, time for negotiations, appraisal, and related transactions. An additional 18 to 24 months would be needed for realty activities, with final completion anticipated in 36 months total time. Real property transactions would be limited to those areas within the existing Grasslands Ecological Area project boundary or would require National Environmental Policy Act NEPA compliance to expand the project boundary.

A breakdown of CALFED costs by task is shown in Table 2 and by federal fiscal year is shown in Table 3.

c. Third Party Impacts

No third party impacts are anticipated as the result of implementing this program. Public involvement in the planning process will be assured by direct membership of various user groups and individuals in the stakeholder group and by conducting regular public meetings during preparation of the program. User groups include land owners, urban and agricultural water users, environmental groups, flood control entities, and federal, state and local agencies.

Table 1 - Cost Breakdown by Source (in thousands of dollars)

Parcel	Packard Foundation	EEMP/ISTEA	WCB/Other	CVPIA	CALFED Requested	Total Cost
Spano	\$4,000 Secured	\$250 Secured	\$7,250 Secured	\$2,000 Requested	\$1,500	\$15,000
Spencer	\$1,500 Requested	\$500 Secured		\$3,200 Requested	\$1,000	\$4,500 ¹
Whitehurst			\$1,000 Requested		\$800	\$1,800
Firebaugh to Mendota					\$550	\$550
Grasslands SJR Mainstem					\$645	\$645
Total					\$4,495	\$22,495

¹ Requested funds exceed purchase price due to the possibility of a requested fund not being secured.

Table 2 - CALFED Cost Breakdown by Task

Parcel	Investigation	Acquisition	Total Cost
Spano		\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Spencer		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Whitehurst		\$800,000	\$1,800,000
Firebaugh to Mendota	\$50,000	\$500,000	\$550,000
Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem	\$95,000	\$550,000	\$645,000
Total	\$145,000	\$4,350,000	\$4,495,000

Table 3 - CALFED Cost Breakdown by Federal Fiscal Year

Parcel	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00
Spano	\$1,500,000		
Spencer	\$1,000,000		
Whitehurst	\$800,000		
Firebaugh to Mendota	\$50,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem	\$95,000	\$300,000	\$250,000
Total	\$3,445,000	\$550,000	\$500,000

VI. Applicant Qualifications

This group is qualified to carry out the proposed project based on the level of interest, participation and support from diverse local groups as well as access to technical expertise. The participants are dedicated to bringing this project to fruition and engineering, planning, biological, and legal expertise are available from within the participating agencies, groups and contract consultants.

The core group that is currently steering this process consists of representatives from seven key organizations. The core group responsible for this current effort consists of the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Below is a brief paragraph on each of these participants.

Representatives of the Friant Water Users Authority (FWUA) have been participating in the riparian restoration project. FWUA is a public agency of the State of California with the responsibility for operating and maintaining the Friant-Kern Canal and associated facilities. The FWUA also represents its 25 member agencies on water issues of statewide significance. Richard Moss, General Manager and Dan Fults, Resources Analysts have been the FWUA's primary representatives on the SJRRHRP.

The Natural Resources Defense Council, (NRDC) is a national nonprofit public interest organization dedicated to protecting the earth's natural resources. With the support of over 350,000 members, including 83,000 in California, staff of environmental attorneys, scientists, and resource specialists address a broad spectrum of environmental issues. NRDC's Western Water Projects works to encourage the conservation and rational use of scarce western water resources, with special emphasis on improving the health of California's waterways. NRDC has been working for protection of the San Francisco Bay/Delta Estuary, including restoration of the San Joaquin River for over a decade. Specific staff involved with the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Project include the following:

Hamilton Candee is a Senior Staff Attorney in the San Francisco office of NRDC and the Director of NRDC's Western Water Project. He is involved in a variety of efforts to promote environmental reforms in federal and state water policy. Mr. Candee is a graduate of Princeton University and New York University Law School.

Ronnie Cohen is a Senior Project Resources Specialist with NRDC. Her work focuses on promoting urban and agricultural water conservation and broad ecosystem restoration, particularly in the San Francisco Bay/Delta. Prior to her work with NRDC, Ms. Cohen worked as a water resources consultant doing Integrated Resources Planning for urban water agencies. Ms. Cohen holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Brown University, and a Master's in Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley.

The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations was established twenty years ago and is now the West Coast's primary lobbying organization for commercial fishermen. The Association works to improve conditions for fish including clean water, fishing restrictions and environmental restoration. The two individuals that represent the PCFFA on the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Project are Zeke Grader and William Kier. Grader, an attorney, helped form the PCFFA and has been the group's executive director since its founding. William Kier is a biological consultant with years of experience working on the restoration of watersheds in California including the Klamath and Trinity.

The San Joaquin River Conservancy is a public agency that develops, operates and maintains the San Joaquin River Parkway. The goal of the Conservancy is to preserve and enhance the San Joaquin River's extraordinary biological diversity, protect its valued cultural and natural resources and provide educational and recreational opportunities to the local communities.

The Conservancy is a State Agency governed by a thirteen-member Regional Board which includes representatives from Madera and Fresno Counties, the cities of Fresno and Madera, plus three members from the general public and individuals from state and local agencies. The purpose of the Conservancy is to provide leadership and develop the necessary policies, procedures and means to acquire, preserve and maintain the river course and land on both sides of the San Joaquin River within the reach that stretches from the Friant Dam on the north to the Highway 99 crossing on the south.

The goal of the San Joaquin River Conservancy is to acquire and preserve 6,000 acres of land along the San Joaquin River corridor. It is the vision of the San Joaquin River Conservancy to provide land acquisition and a management plan to protect and enhance natural resources. By acquiring properties from willing sellers, areas can be opened up for the benefit of the public, mindful of environmental constraints.

San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust (River Parkway Trust) is a nonprofit land trust experienced in habitat protection through acquisition and habitat restoration along the San Joaquin River. Since its formation in 1988, the River Parkway Trust has acquired approximately 490 acres of river bottom land and has assisted the California Wildlife Conservation Board and the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Conservancy) in acquiring an additional 550 acres. Executive Director Dave Koehler has several years of experience in land acquisition in this region and will proceed with the acquisition of the Spano River Ranch. Management of this parcel will be under the direction of DFG and/or the Conservancy, both of which manage nearby properties in the river bottom.

In addition to securing land acquisition funding, the River Parkway Trust has been awarded significant grants for trail conservation, habitat restoration projects, and environmental education programs. To date, five miles of paved multi-use trail are completed and well used, approximately 40 acres of new riparian forest is emerging, and more than 10,000 school children learn about the San Joaquin River through their education programs each year.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is acting as the agency lead for the SJRRHRP, and backs the Program with its technical, administrative, and management resources and expertise. Included in that expertise is a significant understanding and knowledge of the San Joaquin River gathered over 60 years of water resources planning and management in the San Joaquin Valley. Under an Interagency Personnel Agreement with the California Department of Water Resources, Reclamation has appointed Ms. Paula Landis, P.E., to act as the Program Manager. Ms. Landis is a Registered Civil Engineer with ten years experience in river management and planning. She has had responsibility planning and developing habitat restoration projects, for scheduling and tracking budgets, and for design and construction, and evaluation and monitoring of restoration projects. In addition, she served as program manager for the San Joaquin River Management Program and has extensive experience coordinating and collaborating with multiple interest groups.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has an active involvement and interest in the development and implementation of the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program. The Service has contributed funding through the CVPIA for initial development of this Program. The Service is responsible for the continuing benefit of the people. The agency's major responsibilities are for migratory birds, and candidate, threatened and endangered species. The Service provides technical assistance for projects associated with this Program. Furthermore, the agency may also provide financial assistance for specific project implementation.

USFWS San Luis NWR staff have broad depth and experience in conducting or supervising this type of water management project. The adjacent refuge lands owned in fee have been managed to provide optimum floodplain and riparian habitats. As a neighboring landowner, FWS has local knowledge of the community and resource conditions. This site is a logical extension of similar activities on other reaches of the San Joaquin River. Cooperative interagency agreements exist that assure staff resources and funds are used in the most beneficial manner.

Scott Frazer is the Refuge Manager and refuge operations specialist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His responsibilities include water quality monitoring, intensive wetland management, and large habitat restoration projects. He is the primary technical coordinator for the innovative "nonstructural" flood protection proposals on the refuge complex. Mr. Frazer received a B.S. degree in wildlife biology from Humboldt State University in 1979.

VII. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

This proposal is being submitted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of a group of stakeholders. USBR is not required to complete a FORM DI-2010. Any consultants and subcontractors will be hired according to state and federal regulations and requirements for all government agencies.